Case 1:07-cv-00002-JJF Document 12 Filed 01/23/2007 Page 1 of 4

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

L.J. ZUCCA, INC.

Plaintiff,

C.A. No. 1:07-cv-2 (MPT)

v.

ALLEN BROS. WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTORS INC. et al.,

Defendants.

DEFENDANT COOPER-BOOTH WHOLESALE COMPANY'S MOTION FOR PARTIAL JUDGMENT ON THE PLEADINGS

Pursuant to Rule 12(c) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Defendant Cooper-Booth Wholesale Company, by and through its undersigned counsel, hereby moves this Court for judgment on the pleadings dismissing Count I of Plaintiff L.J. Zucca, Inc.'s First Amended Verified Complaint. Count I of the First Amended Verified Complaint asserts claims for alleged violations of the Delaware Unfair Cigarette Sales Act, 6 Del. C. §§ 2601 – 2608. Defendant Cooper-Booth Wholesale Company seeks judgment on the ground that the Delaware Unfair Cigarette Sales Act is preempted by Section 1 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1.

The factual and legal grounds for this Motion are set forth in Defendant Cooper-Booth Company's Brief in Support of Motion for Partial Judgment on the Pleadings, filed contemporaneously herewith. Oral argument is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BLANK ROMÊ LLP

David K. Sheppard, Esquire (I.D. No. 4149)

1201 Market Street, Suite 800

Wilmington, DE 19801 Phone: (302) 425-6400 Fax (302) 425-6464

and

Stephen M. Orlofsky, Esquire Kit Applegate, Esquire 210 Lake Drive East, Suite 200 Woodland Falls Corporate Park Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08002

Phone: (856) 779-3600 Fax: (856) 779-7647

Attorneys for Defendant Cooper-Booth Wholesale Company

Dated: January 23, 2007

United States Constitution, the Delaware Unfair Cigarette Sales Act, 6 *Del. C.* §§ 2601 – 2608, is preempted by the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1.

J.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, David K. Sheppard, certify that on January 23, 2007, I served a copy of **Defendant**Cooper-Booth Company's Motion for Partial Judgment on the Pleadings upon the following counsel in the manner indicated below:

VIA ELECTRONIC SERVICE

Kimberly M. Large, Esquire
Saul Ewing LLP
222 Delaware Ave., Suite 1200
P.O. Box 1266
Wilmington, DE 19899
Attorneys for Plaintiff
L.J. Zucca, Inc.

VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

Eric Rayz, Esquire
Kalikhman & Rayz, LLC
1051 County Line Rd., Suite 102
Huntingdon Valley, PA 19006
Attorneys for Defendant
Allen Bros. Wholesale Distributors, Inc.

Michael D. Fioretti, Esquire Chance & McCann, LLC 201 West Commerce St. Bridgeton, NJ 08302 Attorneys for Defendant Eby-Brown Company LLC

Brian C. Wille, Esquire Kostelanetz & Fink, LLP 530 Fifth Ave. New York, NY 10036 Attorneys for Defendant Western Skier Ltd.

> David K. Sheppard I.D. No. 4149

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

L.J. ZUCCA, INC.	; ;
Plaintiff,	: C.A. No. 1:07-cv-2 (MPT)
v.	:
ALLEN BROS. WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTORS INC. et al.,	: : :
Defendants.	; ;

ORDER

THIS MATTER having come before the Court on Defendant Cooper-Booth Wholesale Company's Motion for Partial Judgment on the Pleadings for an Order under Rule 12(c) dismissing Count I of Plaintiff L.J. Zucca, Inc.'s First Amended Verified Complaint on the ground that, pursuant to Article VI, Paragraph 2 of the United States Constitution, the claims asserted under the Delaware Unfair Cigarette Sales Act, 6 *Del. C.* §§ 2601 – 2608, are preempted by the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1; and the Court having considered the moving and opposing papers, argument of counsel, and having placed its findings of fact and conclusions of law on the record;

IT IS on this	day of	, 2007, ORDERED that:
---------------	--------	------------------------------

- 1. Defendant Cooper-Booth Wholesale Company's motion is **GRANTED**.
- 2. Count I of Plaintiff L.J. Zucca, Inc.'s First Amended Verified Complaint is **DISMISSED** under Rule 12(c) on the ground that, pursuant to Article VI, Paragraph 2 of the



Phone: (302) 425-6479 Fax: (302) 425-6464

Email: sheppard@blankrome.com

January 23, 2007

VIA HAND DELIVERY & ELECTRONIC FILING

The Honorable Mary Pat Thynge United States District Court for the District of Delaware J. Caleb Boggs Federal Bldg. 844 N. King St. Room 6100 Lockbox 8 Wilmington, DE 19801

Re: L.J. Zucca, Inc. v. Allen Bros. Wholesale Distributors Inc., et al. Civil Action No. 07-CV-00002 (MPT)

Dear Magistrate Judge Thynge:

We represent Defendant Cooper-Booth Wholesale Company ("Cooper-Booth") in the above-referenced matter. Today, Cooper-Booth filed a Motion for Partial Judgment on the Pleadings. A courtesy copy is enclosed. In our Motion, we contend that Plaintiff's claims under the Delaware Unfair Cigarette Sales Act, 6 *Del. C.* §§ 2601 – 2608, are preempted by Section 1 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1.

We bring this fact to Your Honor's attention because, under 28 U.S.C. § 2403(b), the Court is required to notify the Delaware Attorney General of Cooper-Booth's constitutional challenge of the Delaware Unfair Cigarette Sales Act:

In any action, suit, or proceeding in a court of the United States to which a State or any agency, officer, or employee thereof is not a party, wherein the constitutionality of any statute of that State affecting the public interest is drawn in question, the court shall certify such fact to the attorney general of the State, and shall permit the State to intervene for presentation of evidence, if evidence is otherwise admissible in the case, and for argument on the question of constitutionality. . . .

28 U.S.C. § 2403(b).



The Honorable Mary Pat Thynge January 23, 2007 Page 2

We thank Your Honor for her time and consideration of this matter.

Respectfully,

David K. Sheppard

I.D. 4149

DKS:ka/pfc Enclosure

cc: Stephen M. Orlofsky, Esquire (via inter-office mail)
Kit Applegate, Esquire (via inter-office mail)

(Co-Counsel for Defendant Cooper-Booth Wholesale Company)

Kimberly M. Large, Esquire (via electronic service) (Counsel for Plaintiff L.J. Zucca, Inc.)

Eric Rayz, Esquire (via First-Class Mail) (Counsel for Defendant Allen Bros. Wholesale Distributors Inc.)

Michael D. Fioretti, Esquire (via First-Class Mail) (Counsel for Defendant Eby-Brown Company LLC)

Brian C. Wille, Esquire (via First-Class Mail) (Counsel for Defendant Western Skier Ltd.)